

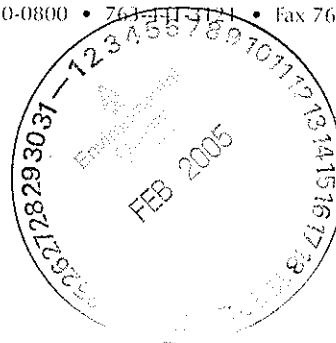
GREAT RIVER
ENERGY

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January 31, 2005

WO #39031

Mr. Robert Schroeder, Chair
MN Environmental Quality Board
658 Cedar St., RM 300
St. Paul, MN 55155



SUBJECT: Lake Constance 115 kV Substation

Dear Mr. Schroeder:

In accordance with the Power Plant Siting Act, this letter serves as the required notice to the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Chair that Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (W-H) has elected to seek local approval for the construction of a new 115 kV substation. Great River Energy (wholesale power supplier to W-H) will assist W-H and Wright County with the permitting process. A Conditional Use Permit application was delivered to Wright County on January 21, 2005. Wright County has been informed that they have 60 days to refer the permitting process to the EQB.

The proposed substation would be located in Buffalo Township near the City of Buffalo completely within Wright County. The new facility will meet the growing electrical demand and improve the service and reliability of electric facilities in the area. A fact sheet that provides more detail on the project is enclosed.

Questions regarding this project should be directed to Charles Davis, Environmental Health Officer for Wright County at 763-682-7331. I may be reached at 763-241-2229. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Dale Aukee
Field Representative

Enclosure

CC: EQB General List of Interested Persons – w/encl.

Tony Nelson, Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association– w/encl.

Wayne Bauernschmitt, Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association – w/encl.

Charles Davis, Wright County, w/encl.

DA:jh\subs\lakeconstance\eqblocalreview\tr.doc

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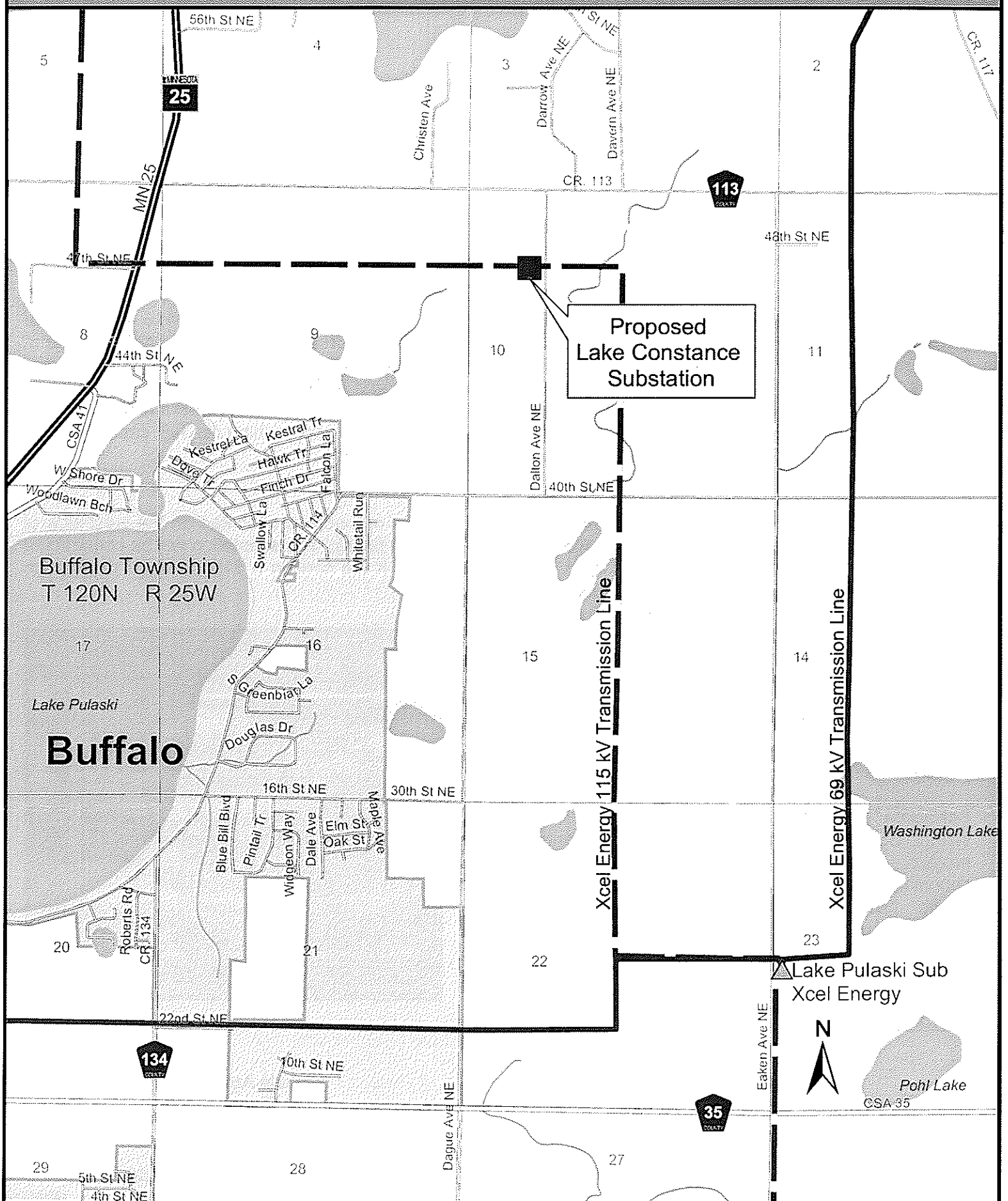
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www.GreatRiverEnergy.com

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PROJECT MAP



Lake Constance 115 kV Substation



**WRIGHT-HENNEPIN COOPERATIVE
ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION**
6800 Electric Drive
Rockford, MN 55373-0330
763-477-3000



GREAT RIVER ENERGY
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Project Goal and Need

Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (W-H) will construct and own a new 115 kV electrical substation east of Buffalo, Minnesota. Great River Energy is a generation and transmission cooperative that provides electrical power to W-H and 27 other distribution cooperatives in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Great River Energy's role in this project will be to assist Wright County and W-H through the permitting process. The substation facility is necessary to meet the growing electrical demand in the area. W-H's Mary Lake and Black Lake substations currently serve this area; however, each is approaching its full capacity. This substation will be used to serve the load in and around the City of Buffalo.

Substation

W-H will acquire the land, build and own the new substation on a one-acre site located on the west side of Dalton Avenue NE, ¼ mile south of County Road 113 (see map on back). The substation will be constructed directly under an existing Xcel Energy 115 kV transmission line. It will contain a 115/12.47 kV distribution transformer (see photo). The entire substation will be fenced.

Transmission Line

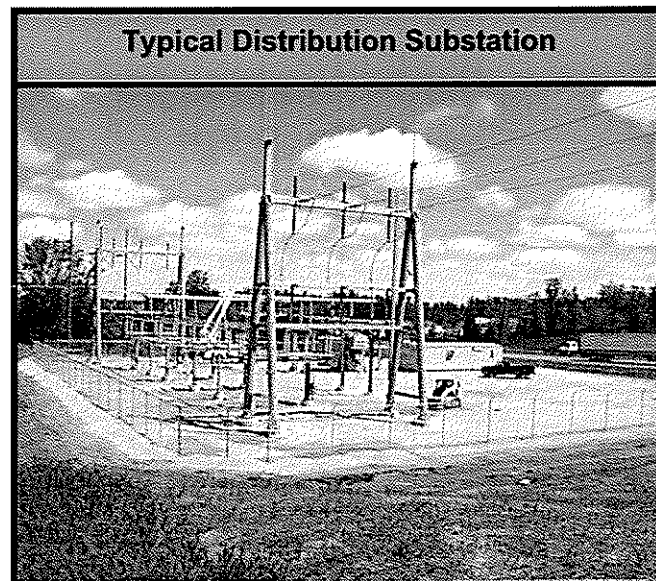
No new transmission line is needed for this project. The existing 115 kV transmission line owned and operated by Xcel Energy will enter the substation on one side and exit the other. The in-and-out design will require new wood poles on either side of the substation. The new wood poles will be in the general location of the existing poles.

Schedule

Wright County will be the permitting authority for this project. W-H has submitted an application for a conditional use permit. Landowners will be notified of the public hearing dates in accordance with County requirements. This project also requires a completion of an Environmental Assessment. Construction is scheduled to start in spring 2005 and be completed by fall of 2005.

Contacts

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